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Pers. Stratton, Samuel S.
Pers. McGee, Gale
Pers. Harris, Fred
Pers. Mansfield, Mike

Defends CIA-Students Link

By STAN CARTER

Washington, Feb. 16 (NEWS Bureau)—The clamor over the Central Intelligence Agency's involvement with student and youth groups grew today despite Administration hopes it would subside.

Sen. Gale W. McGee (D-Wyo.), a former college professor, defended the agency's clandestine subsidy of the National Student Association's international activities for 15 years as a "much-needed and shrewd program."

Criticism, McGee declared, was "prompted primarily by those who wish to 'get the CIA'."

"Tempest in a Teapot"

And in the House, Rep. Samuel S. Stratton (D-N.Y.) called the furor "a tempest in a teapot." He said CIA financial help for international youth gatherings to combat Communism "makes sense."

But Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield (Mont.) urged a

Congressional investigation in addition to the "careful review" that President Johnson yesterday ordered Administration officials to make of governmental activities in the educational field.

"Disturbed and Saddened"

Sen. Fred R. Harris (D-Okla.), said he was "disturbed and saddened" to learn about the CIA's subsidies. "If this is a proper function of our government at all, it should have been carried out openly by an agency such as the State Department or U.S. Information Agency."

Sen. Richard Russell (D-Ga.),

chairman of the Senate CIA Watchdog Committee, said only that the group would meet sometime this month and that Mansfield would then "have a chance to ask any questions he likes."

Administration officials maintained a stony silence, awaiting completion of the study ordered by the President.

Meanwhile, the Washington Star reported that besides having poured more than \$3 million into NSA foreign programs, the CIA made undercover payments of \$500 to \$2,500-a-year to some of the student organization's officers and staff members, based on how much help they were to the intelligence agency.

Pers. Stratton, Samuel S.

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CIA 2-04.2 student groups

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